

With Bait and Sinker in a Power Sampan



AT THE END OF THE DAY.



WHERE THE DOVE NESTS IN THE CANNON'S MOUTH AND JAPANESE FISHERMEN AUCTION THEIR CATCH.

Maikai pulled me out of bed soon after three that morning and fifteen minutes later all hands were aboard the Hooluh and the old boat was chugging away from Lahaina landing, headed for Kahoolawe.

When fairly under way those of the crew who were not engaged in operating the boat covered themselves with a sail and stretched on deck sought to catch up with their lost slumber.

Two hours later we dropped anchor in twenty-five fathoms, having come thirteen miles, at a point off Maalaea Bay. The morning star was paling and the shadows were fast fleeing from Haleakala's rugged side.

Hooks were baited and lines thrown over, but only two or three ulaula or pakapaka were brought to boat.

Presently two more power sampans came along and fished in our vicinity for a while. The Hooluh had made a record catch the day before and the owners of the other boats were very anxious to locate our fishing ground. With this end in view, and despite our early start, the two boats in question followed us up.

Jim Roberts' boat didn't hang around long, her crew evidently concluding, after giving the place a trial, that the fish weren't feeding there that day. Okamura's sampan, however, remained

became disgusted and shogged off a couple of miles.

We started fishing, and I hooked a good one, which fouled the anchor rope

was most appropriately named—darn her old timbers!

The wind was unfavorable and as we didn't relish putting in at Kihei for the

number of fine lehe with our opelu, the afternoon run having started. There was nothing to be done but to up anchor and try to sail back, and this we did. We shouldn't have made Lahaina that night, however, if Jim Roberts' boat, coming up from behind, hadn't noticed our pilikia and passed us a line.

We were soon bowling along merrily in the wake of the larger boat and eating our supper of fish, poi and nioi with rare appetite. Before long the Comet, Okamura's boat, overhauled us and gave the leader a line. So we passed by the lights of Olowalu and into Lahaina roadstead, the unusual apparition causing a rumor to circulate that a freighter was off port.

The count showed that the Japs had forty-two fish, the Hooluh thirty-nine, and Roberts' boat thirty-eight; not a bad day's work, all things being taken into consideration.

The Hawaiian barbless hook works wonderfully well with these big fish and a fish is seldom lost after once being hooked. This kind of hook is quickly released from a fish's mouth and is much more desirable than the haole type of hook, when hauna is used, in that the point is protected, being bent inward, from penetrating the cocoonant fiber in which the hauna is wrapped.



A STRIKE.

and so was lost, the line coming up with the anchor at the end of the day.

Maikai, Alano, Noah and myself did the fishing, Harris Hula spending the entire day trying to fix that pesky engine. The fish came slowly, but he had to make the best of matters, for unless we got power we were there to stay.

So busy had the day previous been that every man Jack in our boat had raw and swollen fingers, caused by fighting the big lehe, and handled his line gingerly with an old stocking. When the last catch was disposed of three fishermen split up fifty-odd dollars, outside of the expenses of the boat, such as bait and gasoline.

Maikai presently landed a twenty-pound lehe—a magnificent fish, very like an ulaula, but comparatively toothless and having mouth and tongue washed with silver.

After a lull I got hold of a couple of lehe and Alano brought up a big Kahala mokualea, but only after a hard battle. This fish resembles an ulua in appearance, but is more elongated in shape. It is one of the best eating fishes caught in Hawaiian waters.

So the sport ran, each in turn getting a fish, though at long intervals, upakapaka being most plentiful.

Along about noon a school of porpoises played tamely around a boat, and once a great dolphin, or mahimahi, chasing a flyingfish, or perhaps chased by some enemy itself, threw itself clear from the water and fell back with a resounding splash.

Shortly after three o'clock we tried to get the engine going again, but there was nothing doing. Surely the Hooluh



"THAT FELT LIKE A BITE."

night we again signaled the Jap for assistance. He came and we borrowed a couple of batteries, giving him all our bait and ice by way of a douceur.

The batteries turned out to be worthless and we had the additional mortification of seeing the Japs pull out a



"A BITE BETWEEN BITES."

about a mile off and awaited developments.

Pretty soon Maikai concluded that we had anchored in the wrong spot and we made ready to move. Luck was against us, however, and the engine refused to start, nor would all the coaxing on the part of the engineer mend matters one iota.

We had breakfast and then signaled the Jap for assistance to get to our desired location. He responded promptly and giving us a line soon had us where we wanted to go, Maikai directing him. We dropped the hook in forty-five fathoms—also the foxy Jap dropped within a stone's throw of our boat.

Now the lehe bite best between the hours of five and eight in the morning and three and six in the afternoon, and having to monkey with the engine the rest of the morning run. After an hour or so without much result, Okamura



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